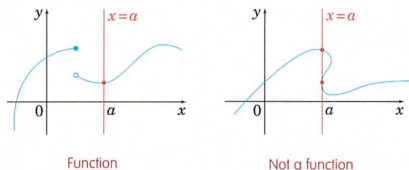


# PRE-CALCULUS

## FUNCTIONS

### DEFINITION

- A **relation** is a set of ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  that "go together." Plotted on the Cartesian plane, a relation is any set of points. **Ex:** The unit circle in the plane is a relation; it is the set of points  $(x, y)$  that satisfy  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .
- A **function** is a set of ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  so that for each  $x$ -value, there is no more than one  $y$ -value. Plotted on the Cartesian plane, a function must pass the **vertical line test**: Every vertical line cuts the graph of the function at most once.



- A function can be thought of as a rule for generating values. Plug in a value for the **independent variable** (frequently  $x$ ) and receive a value for the **dependent variable** (frequently  $y$ ). We say that " $y$  is a function of  $x$ ," and write  $y = f(x)$ —"y equals f of x".
- The **domain** of a function is the set of all allowable values that can be plugged in for the independent variable. **Ex:** The domain of the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is all real numbers except 0.
- The **range** is the set of all possible outputs (values of the dependent variable). **Ex:** The range of the function  $y = \sin x$  is the set of all real numbers between  $-1$  and  $1$ , inclusive (the closed interval  $[-1, 1]$ ).

### WRITING FUNCTIONS DOWN

- A **table** keeps track of input values (**Ex:** time of day) and corresponding output values (**Ex:** number of trucks on U.S. 66) of a function. There may not be a universal equation that describes a function.

- An **equation** such as  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  describes how to numerically manipulate the incoming variable (here,  $x$ ) to get the output value  $f(x)$ .
- A **graph** represents a function visually. If  $y = f(x)$ , then plotting many points  $(x, f(x))$  on the plane will give a picture of the function. Usually, the independent variable is represented horizontally, and the dependent variable vertically. Again, there need not be a single equation for a function described graphically, but the graph must pass the vertical line test.

### VERY FAMILIAR FUNCTIONS

- Linear Functions:** The equations whose graph is a line ( $Ax + By = C$ ) give functions for  $y$  in terms of  $x$  when they are converted to the form  $y = mx + b$ . **Exception:** If  $B = 0$ , the line is vertical and the equation  $x = \frac{C}{A}$  is not a function.
- Quadratic Functions:** The equations whose graph is a parabola ( $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ ) are quadratic functions.

For more on exponents and logarithms, see the Algebra I and Algebra II SparkCharts.

$e$  is called the **natural logarithm** and is written  $\log_e x = \ln x$ . The natural log follows all logarithm rules.

- Any logarithmic expression can be written in terms of natural logarithms using the change of base formula  $\log_a b = \frac{\ln b}{\ln a}$ .

### ADDITIONAL EXPONENT RULES

$$(ab)^n = a^n b^n \quad \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n$$

### CHANGE OF BASE RULE FOR LOGARITHMS

Changing the base is multiplying by a constant.

$\log_a b = \log_a c \log_c b$ . The  $c$  is "canceled."

Also,  $\log_a b = \frac{1}{\log_b a}$ .

## EXPONENT AND LOGARITHM SUMMARY

EXPONENT RULE:	LOGRITHM RULE:
$a^1 = a$	$\log_a a = 1$
$a^0 = 1$ (unless $a = 0$ ) The expression $0^0$ is undefined.	$\log_a 1 = 0$ for all (positive) bases $a$ .
$a^{\log_a b} = b$	$\log_a a^n = n$
$a^{m+n} = a^m a^n$	$\log_a (bc) = \log_a b + \log_a c$
$a^{m-n} = \frac{a^m}{a^n}$	$\log_a \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) = \log_a b - \log_a c$
$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$	$\log_a \frac{1}{b} = -\log_a b$
$a^{mn} = (a^m)^n$	$\log_a b^n = n \log_a b$
$a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$	$\log_a \sqrt[n]{b} = \frac{1}{n} \log_a b$
$a^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m$	$\log_a \sqrt[n]{b^m} = \frac{m}{n} \log_a b$

### REVIEW OF EXPONENTS AND LOGARITHMS

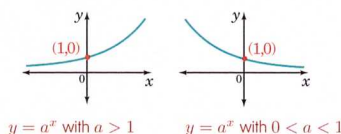
- Exponents:** In the expression  $a^n = b$ ,  $a$  is the **base**,  $n$  is the **exponent**.
- If  $n$  is an integer, then  $a^n$  represents repeated multiplication:  $a^n = \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_{n \text{ times}}$ , and  $b$  is called the  $n^{\text{th}}$  **power** of  $a$ .
- If  $n$  is any rational number (say,  $n = \frac{p}{q}$ ), then  $a^n = a^{\frac{p}{q}} = \sqrt[q]{a^p}$ .
- Logarithms:**  $\log_a b = n$  is the power to which you raise  $a$  to get  $b$ . **REMEMBER:** Logarithms are exponents:  $\log_a b = n$  if and only if  $a^n = b$ . Both  $a$  and  $b$  must be positive; also  $a \neq 1$ .
- If base  $a > 1$  then  $\log_a b > 0$  when  $b > 1$  and  $\log_a b < 0$  when  $b < 1$ .
- $\log b$  means  $\log_{10} b$ . It is often used in applied sciences and by calculators.
- $e$  is a special irrational number (approximately 2.71828) often used as a base for logarithms. The logarithm base

## EXPONENTIAL AND LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS

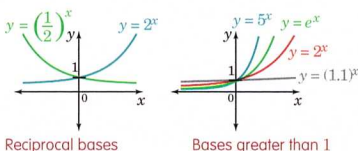
### BASIC EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS: $f(x) = a^x$

An **exponential function** has the basic equation  $f(x) = a^x$ . Here,  $a$  must be positive and  $a \neq 1$ .

- Domain:** all real numbers. **Range:** all positive numbers. **y-intercept** at 1.
- Behavior:** If base  $a > 1$ , the function is constantly increasing; it grows extremely fast for positive  $x$ , and approaches 0 for negative  $x$ . If  $a < 1$ , the function is constantly decreasing; it takes very large values for negative  $x$  and tends towards 0 for positive  $x$ .



- The graph of  $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^x$  is a reflection of the graph of  $f(x) = a^x$  over the  $y$ -axis. See **Reflections over the Axes**.
- For  $a > 1$ , the graph of  $f(x) = a^x$  grows faster the larger  $a$  is.

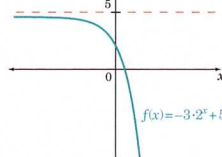


$f(x) = e^x \approx (2.718)^x$  is often thought of as the quintessential exponential function. Any exponential function can be reexpressed with base  $e$ : if  $f(x) = a^x$ , then, since  $a = e^{\ln a}$ , we have  $f(x) = e^{x \ln a}$ . If  $a > 1$ , then the graph of  $f(x) = a^x$  is the graph of  $f(x) = e^x$  stretched in the  $x$ -direction by a factor of  $\ln a$ . Every exponential function has the same basic shape.

### GENERAL EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The most general exponential function is given by the equation  $f(x) = Ca^x + K$ . Equivalently, we let  $b = \ln a$  and write  $f(x) = Ce^{bx} + K$ . (Note that  $C$  can swallow any constant added to  $x$ , since  $a^{x+h} = (a^h) \cdot a^x$ .)

- $|C|$  determines the vertical stretch of the graph. Stretching the graph vertically has the same effect as shifting the graph horizontally. If  $C > 0$ , the graph is oriented upward; if  $C < 0$ , it is oriented downward.
- $a$  (or  $b$ ) determines the horizontal stretch; if  $a > 1$  ( $b > 0$ ), the graph increases to the right; if  $0 < a < 1$  ( $b < 0$ ), it increases to the left.
- $K$  is the value the function approaches in the exponential decay. The line  $y = K$  is a **horizontal asymptote**. The **y-intercept** is  $C + K$ .



### FINDING AN EQUATION FOR AN EXPONENTIAL FUNCTION FROM THE GRAPH

Two points and the height of the asymptote are sufficient to find the equation of an exponential graph.

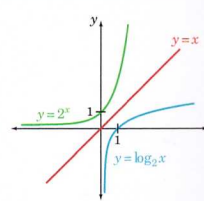
- If we know asymptote  $y = K$ ,  $y$ -intercept  $y_0$ , and point  $(x_1, y_1)$ : The function is  $y = Ca^x + K$ , where  $C = y_0 - K$  and  $a$  is the base such that  $a^{x_1} = \frac{y_1 - K}{C}$ .
- If we know asymptote  $y = K$  and two points  $(x_0, y_0)$  and  $(x_1, y_1)$ : Divide the two equations  $y_0 - K = Ca^{x_0}$  and  $y_1 - K = Ca^{x_1}$  to find base  $a$  such that  $a^{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{y_1 - K}{y_0 - K}$ . Use  $a$  to find  $C = \frac{y_0 - K}{a^{x_0}}$ .

### LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS

A logarithmic function has the form  $y = \log_a x$ . The domain is positive numbers only ( $\log_a 0$  is undefined); the range is all real numbers. There is a vertical asymptote at  $x = 0$ . The graph is always increasing; it grows very quickly for  $0 < x < 1$ , crosses the  $x$ -axis at  $x = 1$ , and then continues growing extremely slowly—slower than any root function—for  $x > 1$ .

- The graph of the logarithmic function  $y = \log_a x$  has the exact same shape as the corresponding exponential graph  $y = a^x$ , reflected over the line  $y = x$ . (True because the two functions are inverses. See **Inverse Functions**.)

- Natural logarithm:**  $f(x) = \ln x$  is the logarithmic function with base  $e \approx 2.718$ .





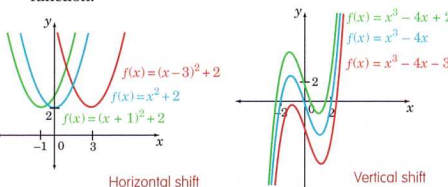
# PRE-CALCULUS

## CHANGING A FUNCTION: SHIFTS, STRETCHES, REFLECTIONS

### TRANSLATIONS

A **translation** of a function is a **shift** vertically, horizontally, or both; the shape, the orientation, and the scale of the graph are all unchanged.

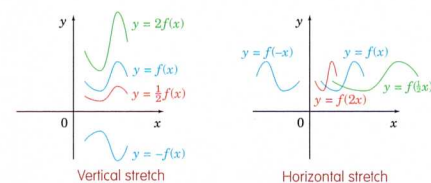
- **Vertical translation:** Adding a constant  $c$  to the equation will shift the function vertically  $c$  units (up if  $c$  is positive, down if  $c$  is negative). The new function  $y = f(x) + c$  has the same shape and the same domain as the original function.
- **Horizontal translation:** The function  $y = f(x - c)$  is a shift of the original function  $c$  units horizontally (to the right if  $c$  is positive, left if  $c$  is negative). The new function has the same shape and the same range as the original function.



### STRETCHES

The graph of a function can be **stretched** or **compressed**, horizontally or vertically (or both), by multiplying by a constant.

- **Vertical stretching, compressing:** For positive  $c$ , the function  $y = cf(x)$  is a vertical stretch or compression of the original function. If  $c > 1$ , then the function  $y = cf(x)$  is stretched by a factor of  $c$ . If  $c < 1$ , then  $y = cf(x)$  is a compression by a factor of  $c$ . Horizontal distances remain unchanged.
- **Horizontal stretching, compressing:** Again, for positive  $c$ , the function  $y = f(\frac{x}{c})$  is a horizontal stretch of the original function if  $c < 1$  (a compression if  $c > 1$ ) by a factor of  $c$ . Vertical distances remain the same.



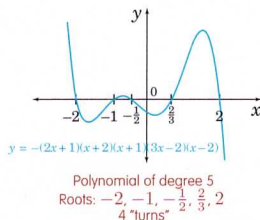
## GENERAL POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS

For more background information on polynomials, see the SparkChart on Algebra II.

### POLYNOMIAL REVIEW

A general polynomial in one variable can be reduced to the form  $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ . The constants  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$  are the **coefficients**; expressions connected by  $\pm$  signs are called **terms**. Two terms are **"like"** terms if they involve the same power of  $x$ ; like terms can be collected and added together to simplify the polynomial. The **degree** of the polynomial is the highest power of  $x$  of any term after the polynomial is simplified; that term is called the **leading term**, and its coefficient is the **leading coefficient**. The term that involves no  $x$ s is the **constant term**. **Ex:** The polynomial above has degree  $n$ , leading term  $a_n x^n$ , leading coefficient  $a_n$ , and constant term  $a_0$ .

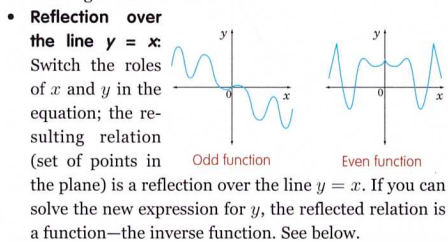
- A **root** (or a **zero**) of a polynomial is any number  $a$  such that  $f(a) = 0$ . On a graph, this corresponds to crossing the  $x$ -axis.
- The domain of any polynomial function is all real numbers. A graph is always "smooth"—no kinks.
- A polynomial of degree  $n$  will have no more than  $n - 1$  "turns"—changes of direction—in the graph; it will cross the  $x$ -axis no more than  $n$  times (and so have at most  $n$  roots).



### REFLECTIONS OVER THE AXES

Reflecting a function over the axes creates a new function which is the same shape and size as the original.

- **Reflection over the  $x$ -axis:** The function  $y = -f(x)$  is a reflection of the original function over the  $x$ -axis. The new function has the same domain as the original; the range is the negative of the original range.
- **Reflection over the  $y$ -axis:** The function  $y = f(-x)$  is a reflection of the original function over the  $y$ -axis. The new function has the same range as the original; the domain is the negative of the original domain.
- If  $f(x) = f(-x)$ , then  $f(x)$  is called **even**; it remains unchanged when reflected over the  $y$ -axis. **Ex:**  $\cos x$  is an even function.
- If  $f(x) = -f(-x)$ , then  $f(x)$  is called **odd**. A reflection over the  $x$ -axis is the same as a reflection over the  $y$ -axis. Equivalently, a  $180^\circ$  rotation of  $f(x)$  around the origin leaves  $f(x)$  unchanged. **Ex:**  $\sin x$  is an odd function.



### INVERSE FUNCTIONS

If the function  $f(x)$  passes the "horizontal line test" in its domain— $f(x)$  never takes the same value twice—then  $f(x)$  has a unique **inverse**  $f^{-1}(x)$  whose domain is the range of  $f(x)$  and *vice versa*.

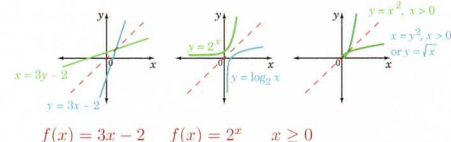
- To find the inverse function, switch the roles of  $x$  and  $y$  in the equation, effectively writing  $x = f(y)$ . Then solve for  $y$ . If you can solve for  $y$  "reversibly," then the function has an inverse.
- **Ex:** Linear function:  $y = mx + b$ . The inverse function is  $y = \frac{1}{m}(x - b)$ .
- **Ex:** Exponential function  $y = a^x$ . The inverse function is  $y = \log_a x$ .

**NOTE:** If  $f(x)$  takes the same value more than once, we restrict the domain before taking the inverse. **Ex:**  $y = x^2$  on the whole real line has no inverse, but the function  $y = x^2$  on the positive reals only has the inverse  $y = \sqrt{x}$ .

- Graphically,  $y = f^{-1}(x)$  has the same shape as the original function, but is reflected over the slanted line  $y = x$ . **Ex:**  $y = 2^x$  and  $y = \log_2 x$  are inverse functions. See graphs below.

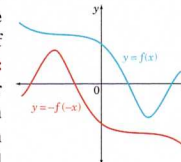
### Properties of the inverse function

- It is a two-sided inverse:  $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $f(x)$  and  $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$ .
- The inverse of the inverse function is the original function:  $(f^{-1})^{-1}(x) = f(x)$ .



### ROTATIONS

- **Rotating  $180^\circ$ :** A rotation of  $180^\circ$  is the same thing as a flip over the  $x$ -axis followed by a flip over the  $y$ -axis (or *vice versa*, though, in general, order of flips matters). Thus  $y = -f(-x)$  is the equation of a function whose graph is a half-circle rotation of the original. **Odd functions** (**Ex:**  $\sin x, x^3$ ) are unchanged after such a rotation. The domain and range of the new function are the negatives of the original function's domain and range.



### POLYNOMIAL REVIEW

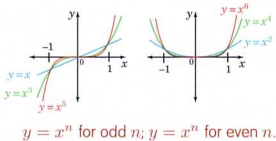
A general polynomial in one variable can be reduced to the form  $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ . The constants  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$  are the **coefficients**; expressions connected by  $\pm$  signs are called **terms**. Two terms are **"like"** terms if they involve the same power of  $x$ ; like terms can be collected and added together to simplify the polynomial. The **degree** of the polynomial is the highest power of  $x$  of any term after the polynomial is simplified; that term is called the **leading term**, and its coefficient is the **leading coefficient**. The term that involves no  $x$ s is the **constant term**. **Ex:** The polynomial above has degree  $n$ , leading term  $a_n x^n$ , leading coefficient  $a_n$ , and constant term  $a_0$ .

- A **root** (or a **zero**) of a polynomial is any number  $a$  such that  $f(a) = 0$ . On a graph, this corresponds to crossing the  $x$ -axis.
- The domain of any polynomial function is all real numbers. A graph is always "smooth"—no kinks.
- A polynomial of degree  $n$  will have no more than  $n - 1$  "turns"—changes of direction—in the graph; it will cross the  $x$ -axis no more than  $n$  times (and so have at most  $n$  roots).

### SIMPLEST POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS $f(x) = x^n$

The polynomial functions  $f(x) = x^n$  come in two overall shapes.

- If  $n$  is odd,  $f(x) = x^n$  goes to  $-\infty$  for negative  $x$  and  $+\infty$  for positive  $x$ . The range is all real numbers. The function crosses the  $x$ -axis at  $x = 0$ .
- If  $n$  is even,  $f(x) = x^n$  goes off to  $+\infty$  for large  $|x|$  both positive and negative. The function is always nonnegative; it touches the  $x$ -axis at  $x = 0$ .



As  $n$  increases,  $f(x) = x^n$  becomes flatter near the origin and steeper everywhere else for both odd and even  $n$ .

### LOOKING FOR ROOTS—THEOREMS

The search for roots plays a big role in polynomial life. Factoring is the way to go.

- **Factor Theorem:** If  $a$  is a root of the polynomial  $f(x)$ , then we can express  $f(x) = (x - a)g(x)$  for some other polynomial  $g(x)$ . In other words,  $a$  is a root if and only if  $x - a$  is a factor of  $f(x)$ . To use:
  1. Every time you find a root  $a$ , factor out  $x - a$  from the polynomial and continue the hunt for roots on the quotient.
  2. Whenever a polynomial has a linear factor  $ax + b$ , then  $-\frac{b}{a}$  is a root.

- **Rational Roots Theorem:** If the polynomial with leading coefficient  $a$  and constant term  $b$  has a rational root, then the root is in the form  $\pm \frac{r}{s}$ , where  $r$  is a factor of  $b$ , and  $s$  is a factor of  $a$ .
- To check for rational roots, list the factors  $s$  of the leading coefficient and the factors  $r$  of the constant term. Make all the possible fractions  $\pm \frac{r}{s}$  and plug them in to the polynomial to check if they are roots.

### GENERAL POLYNOMIAL BEHAVIOR FOR LARGE $|x|$

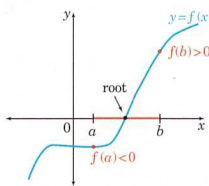
For any polynomial function of degree  $n$ , as  $x$  gets very large, either positively or negatively, the leading term will dominate and determine the behavior of the function.

	$n$ odd	$n$ even
Leading coefficient $> 0$	At least 1 root. Range is all real numbers.	A minimum value for the function exists. May or may not have roots.
Leading coefficient $< 0$	At least 1 root. Range is all real numbers.	A maximum value for the function exists. May or may not have roots.



## GENERAL POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS (CONTINUED)

- Real roots: Harder to find.
- Intermediate Value Theorem for Polynomials:** If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial, and for some two numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , we have  $f(a) > 0$  and  $f(b) < 0$  (or vice versa), then the polynomial  $f(x)$  has a root between  $a$  and  $b$ . This is intuitive if we believe that polynomial functions always have smooth graphs.



Intermediate Value Theorem for Polynomials

- Descartes' Rule of Signs:** The number of positive real roots of a polynomial  $f(x)$  is equal to or an even number less than the number of "sign reversals" in  $f(x)$ .

**Ex:** The polynomial  $3x^5 - x^4 + 5x^3 + 7x^2 - 2x + 5$  has 4 sign reversals, so it has 4, 2, or 0 positive roots.

- Also, the number of negative roots of  $f(x)$  is equal to or an even number less than the number of sign reversals in  $f(-x)$ . **Ex:** With  $f(x)$  as above,  $f(-x) = -3x^5 - x^4 - 5x^3 + 7x^2 + 2x + 5$ . Since there is 1 sign reversal,  $f(x)$  must have exactly 1 negative root.

## SKETCHING A GENERAL POLYNOMIAL WITHOUT A CALCULATOR

- Determine the behavior of the polynomial for large  $|x|$ .
- Find all the roots you can:

## RATIONAL FUNCTIONS

A **rational function** is a quotient of two polynomials:  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ , where  $q(x)$  is not the zero polynomial. The **domain** of the function is all real numbers except the roots of  $q(x)$ .

- An **asymptote** is a line, often vertical or horizontal, that a function gets very close to—but never quite touches—as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  or  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  (often both). Rational functions will more often than not have at least one vertical asymptote.
- On a graph, an asymptote will usually be marked as a dashed line.

### ZEROES

A rational function  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  will cross the  $x$ -axis at all the roots of  $p(x)$  that are not also roots of  $q(x)$ .

- More precisely,  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  will also have a zero at  $a$  if it is a root of both  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$ , but the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $p(x)$  is greater than the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $q(x)$ .

### CALCULUS NOTATION

This notation is frequently used to describe the "end behavior" of a function (i.e., what happens when  $|x|$  approaches  $\infty$ ) or to describe the function near points where it is not defined (such as vertical asymptotes).

**Usage: Ex:** If  $f(x) = x^n$ , then  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $n$  is odd, then  $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ . If  $n$  is even,  $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ .

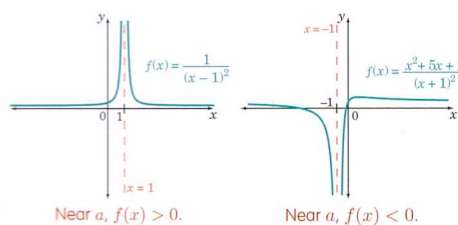
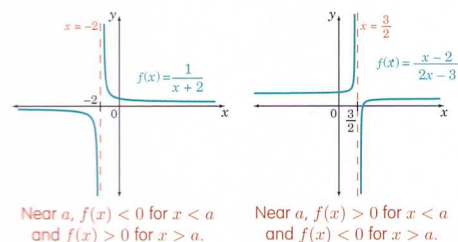
#### Notation Meaning

$x \rightarrow \infty$	$x$ increases without bound
$x \rightarrow -\infty$	$x$ decreases without bound
$ x  \rightarrow \infty$	$x$ increases both positively and negatively
$x \rightarrow a$	$x$ approaches $a$
$x \rightarrow a^+$	$x$ gets close to $a$ while staying greater than $a$ ; $x$ approaches $a$ from the right
$x \rightarrow a^-$	$x$ gets close to $a$ while staying less than $a$ ; $x$ approaches $a$ from the left

### VERTICAL ASYMPTOTES

Function  $f(x)$  has a vertical asymptote given by the equation  $x = a$  when the value of the function increases without bound as  $x$  approaches  $a$ .

Four types of rational function behavior near a vertical asymptote:



In other words,  $x = a$  is a vertical asymptote if  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$  or  $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow a^-$  or  $x \rightarrow a^+$ . For rational functions,  $f(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow a$  from both sides.

A rational function  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  will have a vertical asymptote at every root of  $q(x)$  that is not also a root of  $p(x)$ .

- More precisely,  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  will also have vertical asymptote  $x = a$  if  $a$  is a root of both  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$ , but the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $q(x)$  is greater than the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $p(x)$ .

- Determining behavior of  $f(x)$  near vertical asymptote  $x = a$ : check the sign of  $f(x)$  (no need to compute values) as  $x \rightarrow a^-$  and  $x \rightarrow a^+$ . Easiest to do when both numerator and denominator are completely factored.
- Ex:** The function  $f(x) = \frac{(2x-1)(x+3)}{x}$  has vertical asymptote  $x = 0$ . When  $x$  approaches 0 from the left,  $2x-1 < 0$ ,  $x+3 > 0$  and  $x < 0$ . So the sign of  $f(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^-$  is  $(-)(+)(-) = +$ . The sign of  $f(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^+$  is  $(-)(+)(+) = -$ . Near 0, the function looks like the figure at right.

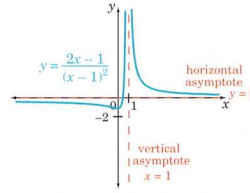
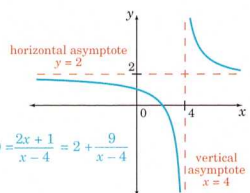
### HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTES

Function  $f(x)$  has a **horizontal asymptote** at  $b$  if  $f(x)$  approaches—but never reaches—the line  $y = b$  for large  $|x|$ .

- More precisely,  $y = b$  is a horizontal asymptote to  $f(x)$  if  $f(x) \rightarrow b$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  or  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ . For rational functions,  $f(x) \rightarrow b$  as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$  on both sides.

If  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  is a rational function with  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  polynomials with leading terms  $ax^n$  and  $bx^m$ , then:

- If  $n < m$ , then  $y = 0$  is a horizontal asymptote.
- If  $n = m$ , then  $y = \frac{a}{b}$  is a horizontal asymptote.
- If  $n > m$ , then there are no horizontal asymptotes. As  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$  on both sides, the function behaves more and more like the polynomial  $\frac{a}{b}x^{n-m}$ .

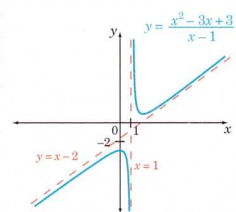


$f(x) = \frac{2x-1}{(x-1)^2}$  crosses its asymptote  $y = 0$

- Rational functions may approach their horizontal asymptotes from above or from below (or from both above and below).
- Even though a function with horizontal asymptote  $y = b$  will approach but never reach  $b$  for large  $|x|$ , the function may cross the line  $y = b$  before it reaches its "asymptotic behavior" stage.

### OBLIQUE ASYMPTOTES

If the degree of  $p(x)$  is exactly one more than the degree of  $q(x)$ , then the rational function  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  will have an **oblique** (a.k.a. **slanted** or **skew**) asymptote.



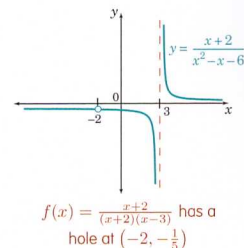
- Factor the polynomial as much as possible to find roots and reduce it to terms of smaller degree.
  - Use the Rational Roots Theorem on the unfactored pieces to find all rational roots. For each root  $a$ , divide out  $x - a$  to reduce the degree.
  - Use Descartes' Rule of Signs or the Intermediate Value Theorem to estimate number and location of real roots.
- Plot all the real roots. For each interval between the roots, test a point to see if the graph is positive or negative on the interval. (A polynomial will cross (as opposed to touch) the  $x$ -axis at a root if and only if its multiplicity is odd.)
  - Sketch the curve.

To find the equation of a skew asymptote, use long division to express  $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = ax + b + \frac{r(x)}{q(x)}$ , where the degree of  $r(x)$  is less than the degree of  $q(x)$ . The line  $y = ax + b$  is a skew asymptote for the function.

### HOLES ("REMOVABLE DISCONTINUITIES")

If vertical asymptotes disrupt the "smoothness" of a graph in a drastic way, **holes** (technically, "**removable discontinuities**") are gaps where a function *could* have been (but wasn't) defined smoothly.

- In the rational function  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ , if  $a$  is a root of both  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  (with the same multiplicity), then—even though  $f(a)$  is not defined because denominator  $q(a) = 0$ —the function passes over the point  $a$  without major hitches, leaving a small hole.
- Note: The function  $f(x) = \frac{x+2}{(x+2)(x-3)}$  has all the same values as  $g(x) = \frac{1}{x-3}$  except at  $x = -2$ :  $f(-2)$  is undefined, while  $g(-2) = -\frac{1}{5}$ .



### SUMMARY: RATIONAL FUNCTION SKETCHING

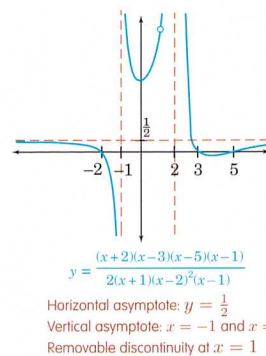
Suppose  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0}{b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + b_0}$ .

Local behavior:

- If  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  have no roots in common:
  - $f(x)$  will cross the  $x$ -axis at each root of  $p(x)$ .
  - $f(x)$  will have a vertical asymptote at each root of  $q(x)$ .
- If  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  have a common root  $a$ ,  $r$  is the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $p(x)$ , and  $s$  the multiplicity of  $a$  as a root of  $q(x)$ :
  - If  $r > s$ , then  $f(x)$  crosses the  $x$ -axis at  $a$ .
  - If  $r = s$ , then  $f(x)$  has a hole at  $a$ .
  - If  $r < s$ , then  $x = a$  is a vertical asymptote.

End behavior:

- If  $n \leq m$ , then the function has a horizontal asymptote.
- If  $n = m + 1$ , then the function has an oblique asymptote.
- If  $n > m + 1$ , then the function approaches the graph of  $\frac{a_n}{b_m} x^{n-m}$  asymptotically.



Horizontal asymptote:  $y = \frac{1}{2}$   
Vertical asymptote:  $x = -1$  and  $x = 2$   
Removable discontinuity at  $x = 1$

## TRIG

### TRIGONOMETRIC

Trigonometric functions are defined in two ways:

- Any angle  $\theta$  is measured from the origin  $O$  to the point  $P$  on the unit circle. The coordinates of  $P$  are  $(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ . The angle  $\theta$  is measured in radians. The length of the arc from  $(1, 0)$  to  $P$  is  $\theta$ . The angle  $\theta$  is measured in radians. The length of the arc from  $(1, 0)$  to  $P$  is  $\theta$ . The angle  $\theta$  is measured in radians. The length of the arc from  $(1, 0)$  to  $P$  is  $\theta$ .
- Trigonometric functions are defined in terms of the sides of a right triangle. The angle  $\theta$  is measured in radians. The length of the arc from  $(1, 0)$  to  $P$  is  $\theta$ .

Func.	Unit	Trig
$\sin \theta$	$y$	$\frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$
$\cos \theta$	$x$	$\frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$
$\tan \theta$	$\frac{y}{x}$	$\frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$
$\csc \theta$	$\frac{1}{\sin \theta}$	$\frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{opposite}}$
$\sec \theta$	$\frac{1}{\cos \theta}$	$\frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{adjacent}}$
$\cot \theta$	$\frac{x}{y}$	$\frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{opposite}}$

SOHCAHTOA: Sin Opposite over Hypotenuse

All Students Take main trig function quadrants: I: All, II: S, III: T, IV: A

All trigonometric functions (sin, cos, sec, csc, tan, cot) are periodic with period  $2\pi$ .

Trigonometric functions are periodic with period  $2\pi$ .

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# TRIG SUMMARY

## TRIGONOMETRIC FUNCTIONS

Trigonometric functions are commonly thought of in two ways:

- Any angle  $\theta$  defines a point  $P = (x, y)$  on the **unit circle**: if  $O$  is the origin and  $A = (1, 0)$ , then  $P$  has  $m\angle AOP = \theta$ . Trigonometric functions are defined in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ , the coordinates of point  $P$ .
- Trigonometric functions are also given by ratios of side lengths of a right triangle with acute angles  $\theta$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta$ . For  $\theta > \frac{\pi}{2}$ , apply the right triangle definitions to a **reference angle** (if  $\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \pi$ ,  $\theta_{\text{ref}} = \pi - \theta$ ; if  $\pi < \theta < \frac{3\pi}{2}$ ,  $\theta_{\text{ref}} = \theta - \pi$ ; etc.), and attach the appropriate  $\pm$  sign (or just use the unit circle).

Func.	Unit circle	Right triangle	Domain	Range
$\sin \theta$	$y$	opp/hyp	all real numbers	$[-1, 1]$
$\cos \theta$	$x$	adj/hyp	all real numbers	$[-1, 1]$
$\tan \theta$	$\frac{y}{x}$	opp/adj	all reals except $k\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}$	all real numbers
$\csc \theta$	$\frac{1}{y}$	hyp/opp	all reals except $k\pi$	$(-\infty, -1] \cup [1, +\infty)$
$\sec \theta$	$\frac{1}{x}$	hyp/adj	all reals except $k\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}$	$(-\infty, -1] \cup [1, +\infty)$
$\cot \theta$	$\frac{x}{y}$	adj/opp	all reals except $k\pi$	all real numbers

**SOHCAHTOA:** "Sine is Opposite over Hypotenuse; Cosine is Adjacent over Hypotenuse; Tangent is Opposite over Adjacent."

All Students Take Calculus tells which of the main trig functions are positive in which quadrants: I: All; II: Sine only; III: Tangent only; IV: Cosine only.

All trigonometric functions are **periodic** with period  $2\pi$  (sin, cos, sec, csc) or  $\pi$  (tan, cot).

## TRIGONOMETRIC IDENTITIES

### Sum and difference formulas

$$\sin(A \pm B) = \sin A \cos B \pm \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A \pm B) = \cos A \cos B \mp \sin A \sin B$$

### Double-angle formulas

$$\sin(2A) = 2 \sin A \cos A$$

$$\cos(2A) = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$$

$$= 2 \cos^2 A - 1 = 1 - 2 \sin^2 A$$

### Half-angle formulas

$$\sin \frac{A}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos A}{2}} \quad \cos \frac{A}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos A}{2}}$$

### Pythagorean identities

$$\sin^2 A + \cos^2 A = 1$$

$$\tan^2 A + 1 = \sec^2 A \quad 1 + \cot^2 A = \csc^2 A$$

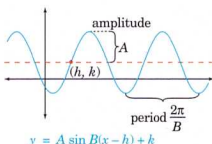
### Special trigonometric values

$\theta$ (deg)	$\theta$ (rad)	$\sin \theta$	$\cos \theta$	$\tan \theta$
$0^\circ$	0	$\frac{\sqrt{0}}{2} = 0$	1	0
$30^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{1}}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$
$45^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	1
$60^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\sqrt{3}$
$90^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{4}}{2} = 1$	0	undefined

## GRAPHING SINE AND COSINE CURVES

**Sinusoidal functions** can be written in the form  $y = A \sin(B(x - h)) + k$ .

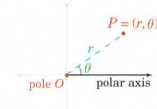
- $|A|$  is the **amplitude**.
- $k$  is the **average value**: halfway between the maximum and the minimum value of the function.
- $\frac{2\pi}{B}$  is the **period**. There are  $B$  cycles in every interval of length  $2\pi$ , so  $\frac{B}{2\pi}$  is the **frequency**.
- $h$  is **phase shift**, or how far the beginning of the cycle is from the  $y$ -axis.



# POLAR COORDINATES

**Polar coordinates** describe a point  $P = (r, \theta)$  on a plane in terms of its distance  $r$  from the **pole**—usually, the origin  $O$ —and the (counterclockwise) angle  $\theta$  that the line  $\overline{OP}$  makes with the **polar axis**—usually, the positive  $x$ -axis. To identify a point, it is standard to limit  $r \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$ , although

- $(-r, \theta) = (r, \theta + \pi)$ , and
- $(r, \theta) = (r, \theta + 2n\pi)$  for integer  $n$ .



In Cartesian coordinates,  $P = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$ .

## CARTESIAN—POLAR CONVERSION

- From Cartesian to polar:  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ ;  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$
- From polar to Cartesian:  $x = r \cos \theta$ ;  $y = r \sin \theta$

## FUNCTIONS IN POLAR COORDINATES

Functions in polar coordinates usually define  $r$  in terms of  $\theta$ . They need not (and almost never will) pass the vertical line test.

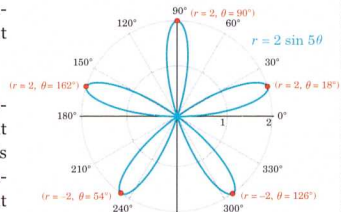
### Circles:

- The graph of  $r = a$  is a circle of radius  $|a|$  centered at the origin.
- The graphs of equations  $r = a \sin \theta$  and  $r = a \cos \theta$  are circles of radius  $|\frac{a}{2}|$  centered at the Cartesian coordinate points  $(0, \frac{a}{2})$  and  $(\frac{a}{2}, 0)$ , respectively.

### Roses:

The graphs of equations  $r = \sin n\theta$  and  $r = \cos n\theta$  give roses with  $n$  petals if  $n$  is odd and  $2n$  petals if  $n$  is even.

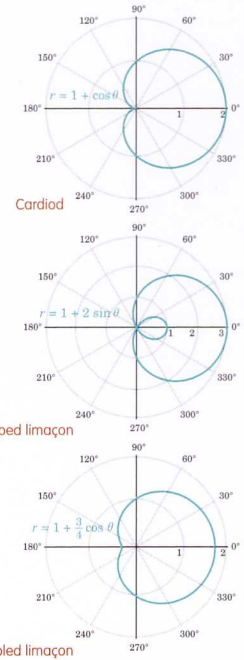
- Cosine roses:** Always symmetric about the  $x$ -axis. If  $n$  is even, also symmetric about the  $y$ -axis.
- Sine roses:** Always symmetric about the  $y$ -axis. If  $n$  is even, also symmetric about the  $x$ -axis.



### Limaçons and Cardioids:

The graphs of equation  $r = 1 \pm c \cos \theta$  and  $r = 1 \pm c \sin \theta$  are called **limaçons**. When  $c = 1$ , the limaçon is called a **cardioid** (it is "heart"-shaped). Assume that  $c$  is positive.

- If  $c > 1$ , the limaçon has an inner loop. If  $\frac{1}{2} < c \leq 1$ , the limaçon has a **dimple** (or **dent**). If  $c \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , the limaçon is convex (like a "squashed" circle).
- A **sine limaçon** is oriented up-down. The loop is on the bottom in  $r = 1 + c \sin \theta$ ; on top in  $r = 1 - c \sin \theta$ .
- A **cosine limaçon** is oriented left-right. The loop is on the left in  $r = 1 + c \cos \theta$ ; right in  $r = 1 - c \cos \theta$ .
- The graphs of  $r = a \pm b \sin \theta$  and  $r = a \pm b \cos \theta$  are limaçons stretched by a factor of  $|a|$ . Factor out  $a$  to get  $c = \frac{b}{a}$ . If  $a$  is negative, its orientation is reversed.



## SYMMETRY

These tests *guarantee* symmetry, but they are not exhaustive.

- x-axis symmetry:** If the equation is unchanged when  $\theta$  is replaced by  $-\theta$ , the graph is symmetric about the  $x$ -axis.
- y-axis symmetry:** If the equation is unchanged when  $\theta$  is replaced by  $\pi - \theta$ , the graph is symmetric about the  $y$ -axis.
- Origin symmetry:** If the equation is unchanged when  $r$  is replaced by  $-r$ , the graph is symmetric about the origin: the graph is unchanged when it is rotated  $180^\circ$ .
- The graph of the function  $r = f(\theta - \alpha)$  is a rotation of the graph of  $r = f(\theta)$  by  $\alpha$  counterclockwise.
- The graph of the function  $r = af(\theta)$  is a dilation of the graph of  $r = f(\theta)$  by a factor of  $|a|$ . If  $a$  is negative, the graph is also reflected through the origin (same as a  $180^\circ$  rotation).

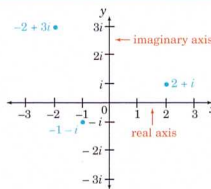
# COMPLEX NUMBERS

## COMPLEX NUMBERS

- Imaginary numbers** are square roots of negative numbers. They are expressed as real multiples of  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ .
- Complex numbers** are all numbers  $a + bi$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are real. Complex numbers are all sums and products of real and imaginary numbers.
  - The **complex conjugate** of  $a + bi$  is  $\overline{a + bi} = a - bi$ . Also,  $a - bi = \overline{a + bi} = a + bi$ .
  - The product of a complex number and its conjugate is a real number:  $(a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2$ .
- Addition, subtraction, and multiplication:** Complex numbers are added and multiplied like polynomials, keeping the real and the imaginary part separate:
 
$$(a + bi) \pm (c + di) = (a + c) \pm (b + d)i.$$
 For multiplication, use  $i \cdot i = -1$ :
 
$$(a + bi)(c + di) = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i.$$
- Division:** To divide one complex number by another, multiply top and bottom of the fraction by the conjugate of the denominator and simplify the numerator.
 
$$\frac{a + bi}{c + di} = \frac{(a + bi)(c - di)}{c^2 + d^2}$$

## COMPLEX PLANE

- Complex numbers can be represented as points on a plane (just like real numbers can be represented as points on a line). The number  $a + bi$  is represented as the point  $(a, b)$ .
- The horizontal axis is the **real axis**. Points on the  $x$ -axis represent real numbers.
- The vertical axis is the **imaginary axis**. Points on the  $y$ -axis represent imaginary numbers.
- The complex conjugate of a number is represented by the point reflected across the  $x$ -axis.
- The product of a number and its conjugate is the square of its distance from the origin:  $(a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2$ .



## TRIGONOMETRIC FORM:

### $r \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$

- Trigonometric or polar form** of a complex number comes from identifying the points on the complex plane with polar coordinates. Multiplication and division are simple in this form.
- In trigonometric form,  $x + yi = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$ . Here,  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  is the **modulus**, or the distance of the point from the origin, and  $\theta = \arctan \frac{y}{x}$  is the **argument**, or the angle that the line  $\overline{OP}$  makes with the positive  $x$ -axis.
  - Sometimes  $\cos \theta + i \sin \theta$  is abbreviated as  $\text{cis } \theta$  and this notation is called "**cis notation**."

## PRODUCTS, QUOTIENTS, AND DEMOIVRE'S THEOREM

- Multiplication:**

$$(r_1(\cos \theta_1 + i \sin \theta_1))(r_2(\cos \theta_2 + i \sin \theta_2)) = r_1 r_2 (\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2))$$
 In cis notation,  $(r_1 \text{ cis } \theta_1)(r_2 \text{ cis } \theta_2) = r_1 r_2 \text{ cis }(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$ .
- Division:**

$$\frac{r_1(\cos \theta_1 + i \sin \theta_1)}{r_2(\cos \theta_2 + i \sin \theta_2)} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} (\cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2))$$
 In cis notation,  $\frac{r_1 \text{ cis } \theta_1}{r_2 \text{ cis } \theta_2} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} \text{ cis }(\theta_1 - \theta_2)$ .

- DeMoivre's Theorem—raising to powers:**

$$(r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta))^n = r^n (\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)$$
 In cis notation,  $(r \text{ cis } \theta)^n = r^n \text{ cis } n\theta$ .
- Extracting roots:** The complex number  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$  has exactly  $n$  complex  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots (Here,  $n$  is a positive integer and  $r$  is positive.) The roots are  $\sqrt[n]{r}(\cos \phi + i \sin \phi)$ , where  $\phi = \frac{\theta}{n}, \frac{\theta + 360^\circ}{n}, \frac{\theta + 720^\circ}{n}, \dots, \frac{\theta + (n-1)360^\circ}{n}$ .
- The  $n$  complex roots of  $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$  are evenly spaced on the circle of radius  $\sqrt[n]{r}$  centered at the origin.
- The easiest way to find the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of any complex number  $a + bi$  is to convert it to trigonometric form and use this method.